

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 42928-45711

Title: AERIAL DELIVERY OF CS GAS DURING GROUND CONTROL OPERATIONS

Operation/Exercise Name: RESTORE HOPE

Observed: 28 Apr 1993

Originator: HMM-263

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5. (U) OBSERVATION:

Aerial delivery of CS gas during crowd control operations can be provided by the AH-1W or the UH-1N.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

During cordon and search operations in the towns and villages of Somalia, crowd unrest and violence was a potential threat. The AH-1W/UH-1N's have a "smoke rack" which can be mounted under one of their stub wings to deliver RCA's during crowd control operations. This would be a more effective method of delivery than hand thrown CS by ground troops.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

Helos had a unique and clear perspective of the rioting crowd from the air. When in radio contact with the ground commander, the helos could effectively deliver CS.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Future MEU (SOC) deployments should include the acquisition of the "smoke racks" or "smoke pots" for the AH-1W and UH-1N.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

None.
